Amendment of Land Acquisition Act, 1894

1365. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to amend Land Acquisition Act, 1894;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) whether any State Governments have proposed any amendment to section 23, 28 and 34;

(d) if so, which State Governments and the details of amendment proposed;

(e) whether Government is considering to reimburse the additional financial implications on account of amendment in section 23, when there is a probability to increase the financial burden on the State exchequer;

(f) whether Government propose to delete Section 38—44;

(g) whether any State Government has opposed the deletion; and

(h) whether the Government intends to put restriction on acquisition of land for the private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 was introduced in the Lok Sabha during the Winter Session, 2007 of the Parliament. Presently, the Bill is being considered by the Standing Committee on Rural Development.

(c) to (e) No State Government has proposed any such amendment. However, in clause 19 of the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007, it has been proposed that in section 23 of the principle Act, (i) in sub-section (1), in item "first", after the words "market value of the land", the words, figures and letters "in terms of section 11B" shall be inserted; and (ii) in sub-section (2), for the words "a sum of thirty per cent on such market-value" "sum of sixty per centum on such market-value" shall be substituted. Nothing else has been proposed in respect of the financial implication, etc. of this proposal.

(f) to (h) Provisions of Part VII of the principal Act relating to "Acquisition of land for companies" covering sections 38 to 44B (both inclusive) are proposed to be omitted. No State Government has opposed this so far.

Guidelines for effective implementation of Centrally sponsored rural employment Schemes

1366. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has advised the State Governments to ensure conducive environment for the effective implementation of Centrally sponsored rural employment schemes;

(b) if so, whether the guidelines issued for the successful implementation of NREGA are being followed in letter and spirit;

(c) whether the Ministry has referred to the draft CAG report and has issued guidelines to the States for initiating corrective measures; and

(d) if so, what is the status of implementing these guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has prepared guidelines for all Centrally sponsored rural development schemes and these have been made available to all the implementing agencies in the States for effective implementation of the schemes.

(b) to (d) CAG has undertaken performance audit of the implementation of NREGA in 68 phase-I districts for the year 2006-07 on a request made by the Ministery. CAG submitted its draft report on 17.12.2007 to the Ministry. There are some findings in the draft report which relate to deviations from the guidelines in some sample cases such as application for employment issue of dated receipts, job card formats, muster rolls, maintenance of record registers and monitoring. The draft report has been examined in the Ministry and has also been shared with all the States. The States have given their responses to the observations made by CAG in the draft report. These have been sent to CAG. State responses are in the process of examination by CAG for finalisation of the performance audit report of NREGA.

People without job cards under NREGS

†1367. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of poor people still have not got their job cards under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that poor people are being provided employment only for 17 days under this scheme;

(c) if so, whether any concrete steps are being taken by Government to implement this scheme fully; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir. NREGA is a demand driven programme and is not target based. Any local rural household who makes a written or oral application for registration to the Gram Panchayat is to be issued the job card by the Gram Panchayat after verification.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. The aim of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the rural households by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. NREGA is demand based. Under the Act, employment is provided to a wage seeker for the number of days of employment demanded subject to an over all ceiling of 100 days per household in a financial year. The 100 days of employment envisaged under the Act takes into account the fact that workers

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi